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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

VOL. IV. JANUARY—APRIL, 1845. No. 32.

Stated Meeting, January 3.

Present, thirty-seven members.

Dr. FRANKLIN BACHE, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Prof. S. S. Haldeman, a member elect, was presented and took his seat.

The judges and clerks of the annual election held this day, reported the appointment of the following officers:—

President.

Robert M. Patterson, M.D.

Vice-Presidents.

Nathaniel Chapman, M.D.,
Franklin Bache, M.D.,
Alexander Dallas Bache, LL.D.

Secretaries.

J. K. Kane,
Robley Dunglison, M.D.,
John F. Frazer,
Alfred Langdon Elwyn, M.D.

Counsellors for Three Years.

Clement C. Biddle, LL.D.,
William Short,
Joseph Henry, LL.D.,
Benjamin Dorr, LL.D.

Curators.

Isaac Hays, M.D.,
Franklin Peale,
John P. Wetherill.

Treasurer.

George Ord.

Letters were received and read:—

From the Zoological Society of London, dated December, 1843, and 30th July, 1844:—

From the Society of Antiquaries, London, dated 22d November, 1844, acknowledging the receipt of donations from the Society:—

From Prof. Bartlett, dated West Point, 19th December, 1844, on the subject of observations of the late eclipse:—and,

From Prof. Reinwardt, of Leyden University, dated October, 1844, announcing a donation to the Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Transactions of the Zoological Society of London. Vol. III. Parts 2 and 3. 1843, 1844. 4to.—*From the Society.*

Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London. Nos. 120 to 130, inclusive. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Reports of the Council and Auditors of the Zoological Society of London, read at the Annual General Meeting, April 29, 1844. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Journal of the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania. Third Series. Vol. VIII. No. 6. December, 1844. 8vo.—*From Dr. R. M. Patterson.*

The African Repository and Colonial Journal. Vol. XX. No. 12. December, 1844. 8vo.—*From the American Colonization Society.*

Verhandelingen over de Natuurlijke Geschiedenis der Nederlandsche overzeesche Bezittingen, door de Leden der Natuurkundige Commissie in Indië en andere Schrijvers. Uitgegeven op last Van den Koning door C. J. Temminck. Botanie. Geredigeerd door J. A. Susanna, Gedrukt door J. G. la Lau. Leiden, 1839—1842. Folio.—*From Professor C. G. C. Reinwardt.*

Twenty-fifth Congress, 3d Session; House of Representatives, Doc. 208. Twenty-eighth Congress, 2d Session; House of Representatives, Doc. 16.—*From the Hon. J. R. Ingersoll.*

The Medical News and Library. Vol. III. No. 25. January, 1845. 8vo.—*From Lea & Blanchard.*

The Hospitals and Surgeons of Paris. An Historical and Statistical Account of the Civil Hospitals of Paris; with miscellaneous information, and Biographical Notices of some of the most eminent

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Society
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of the living Parisian Surgeons. By F. Campbell Stewart, M.D. Philadelphia, 1843. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Memoir on the Radical Cure of Club-Foot. By H. Scoutetten, D.M.P. Translated from the French by F. Campbell Stewart, M.D. Philadelphia, 1840. 8vo.—*From the Translator.*

ADDITION TO THE LIBRARY BY PURCHASE.

Astronomische Nachrichten. Nos. 515 to 518, inclusive. 4to.

FOR THE CABINET.

Copy of a Persian Daric, now in the U. S. Mint.—*From George M. Justice.*

Dr. Dunglison presented No. 31, of the Proceedings, to December 20th, inclusive.

Dr. Hays presented his resignation of the office of Curator, to which he had been this day elected.

Stated Meeting, January 17.

Present, twenty-nine members.

Dr. Bache, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were received and read:—

From A. Dallas Bache, dated Washington, January 7th, 1845, acknowledging the receipt of notice of his election as Vice-President of the Society:—

From the Royal Academy of Sciences of Berlin, dated Berlin, 15th August, 1844, announcing a donation to the Library, and acknowledging the receipt of the Transactions of this Society:—

From the Batavian Society of Experimental Philosophers, dated Rotterdam, 25th October, 1844, announcing a donation to the Library:—

From Mrs. Anna Maria Thornton, dated Washington, 13th Nov. 1844, announcing a donation to the Library:—and,

From Dr. Robert M. Patterson, resigning the office of President of the Society, to which he had been elected.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Abhandlungen der Königlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin. Aus dem Jahre, 1842. Berlin, 1844. 4to.—*From the Royal Academy of Sciences of Berlin.*

Bericht über die zur Bekanntmachung geeigneten Verhandlungen der Königl. Preuss. Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin. July to December, 1843, inclusive. January to June, 1844, inclusive. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Annales des Mines. Quatrième Série. Tome V. 2e Livraison de 1844. 8vo.—*From the Engineers of Mines, Paris.*

Nieuwe Verhandelingen van het Bataafsch Genootschap der Proefondervindelijke Wijsbegeerte te Rotterdam. Negende Deel. Eerste Stuk. Rotterdam, 1844. 4to.—*From the Batavian Society of Experimental Philosophy.*

Plan en Grondwetten van het Bataafsch Genootschap der Proefondervindelijke Wijsbegeerte te Rotterdam. 1843. 4to.—*From the same.*

Siebenter Bericht über das Museum Francisco-Carolinum. Nebst der vierten Lieferung der Beiträge zur Landeskunde von Oesterrich ob der Enns und Selzburg. Linz, 1843. 8vo.—*From the Rev. W. R. Rally.*

Journal of the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania. Third Series. Vol. IX. No. 17. January, 1845. 8vo.—*From Dr. R. M. Patterson.*

The American Journal of the Medical Sciences. Edited by Isaac Hays, M.D. New Series. Vol. IX. No. 17. January, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Editor.*

Recherches sur les Volcans éteints du Vivarais et du Velay; avec un Discours sur les Volcans brûlans, des Mémoires Analytiques sur les Schorls, la Zéolite, le Basalte, la Pouzzolane, les Laves et les différentes substances qui s'y trouvent engagées, etc. Par M. Faujas de Saint-Fond. Grenoble et Paris, 1778. Folio.—*From Mrs. Anna Maria Thornton.*

Annual Report of the Board of Canal Commissioners, for the Fiscal Year, ending November 30, 1844. 8vo.—*From C. B. Trego, Esq.*

Report of the State Treasurer, upon the Finances of Pennsylvania, to the Legislature of the State, at the Commencement of the Session of 1845.—*From the same.*

Report of the President and Managers of the Schuylkill Navigation Company, to the Stockholders. January 6, 1845. 8vo.—*From S. W. Roberts, Esq.*

Report to the Board of Managers of the Schuylkill Navigation Company, on the Improvement of the Schuylkill Navigation. By Solomon W. Roberts, Civil Engineer. Philadelphia, January 2, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Mirror for Dyspeptics; from the Diary of a Landlord. By J. M. Sanderson, Franklin House. Philadelphia, 1844.—*From the Author.*

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY BY PURCHASE.

Comptes Rendus hebdomadaires des Séances de l'Académie des Sciences. Tome XIX. Nos. 14 to 17, inclusive. 4to.

Tables des Comptes Rendus. Tome XVIII.

Dr. Chapman offered his resignation of the office of Vice-President of the Society.

Dr. Chapman announced the death of Granville Penn, Esq., a member of this Society, upon 28th September, 1844.

Mr. Job R. Tyson was appointed to prepare an obituary notice of Mr. Penn.

Major James D. Graham read a continuation of a paper, entitled "Some Observations made upon the Dip of the Magnetic Needle, at a number of Stations between the City of Washington and the extreme North-east and North Frontiers of Maine, in 1841, 1843, and 1844:" which was referred to a Committee, consisting of Prof. Frazer, Prof. Bache, Prof. Kendall.

Prof. S. S. Haldeman read a paper, upon the History of the Coleoptera Longicornia of the United States, which was referred to a Committee, consisting of Mr. T. R. Peale, Mr. Lea, and Mr. Ord.

Mr. George Ord was reëlected Librarian.

The following standing Committees were appointed for the year:—

Of Finance.—Mr. C. C. Biddle, Mr. Lea, Dr. Patterson.

Of Publication.—Mr. Lea, Dr. Hays, Mr. J. Francis Fisher.

On the Hall.—Mr. Campbell, Mr. Fraley, Mr. Kane.

On the Library.—Dr. Hays, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Pennington.

The resignations of Dr. Patterson, as President, Dr. Chapman, as Vice-President, and Dr. Hays, as Curator, were accepted by the Society.

The following gentlemen were elected Members of the Society:—

Charles Frederick Beck, M.D. of Philadelphia.
Richard Owen, F. R. S., of London.
Sir James Clark, Bart. M.D. of London.
Prince Maximilien, of Wied.
James Copland, M.D. of London.
Major William Tell Poussin, of Paris.
Professor J. A. Alexander, of Princeton.
Frederick Von Raumer, of Berlin.

Stated Meeting, February 7.

Present, forty-six members.

Dr. Bache, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Dr. Charles Frederick Beck, a newly elected member, appeared and took his seat.

Letters were received and read:—

From Dr. Charles Frederick Beck, dated January 24, 1845, and from Professor Joseph A. Alexander, Princeton, dated January 25, 1845, respectively acknowledging the receipt of notice of their election as members:—

From the Linnæan Society of London, dated London, 8th November, 1844:—From the Statistical Society of London, dated London, 1st August, 1844:—From the Zoological Society of London, dated London, 7th November, 1844:—From the Connecticut Historical Society, dated Hartford, 20th January, 1845:—From the New York Historical Society, dated New York, 10th December, 1844:—From the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, dated Philadelphia, 21st January, 1845, announcing the receipt of the Proceedings and Transactions of this Society:—

From the Honorary Secretary of the Ethnological Society of London, dated London, 13th November, 1844, forwarding Vol. I. and part 1. Vol. II. of the Journal of the Society:—and

From Mr. Eli K. Price, dated Philadelphia, 28th January, 1845, on business connected with the will of the late Nathan Dunn.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Mémoires de l'Académie Impériale des Sciences de Saint Pétersbourg. VIme Série. Sciences Mathématiques, Physiques et Naturelles. Tome Cinquième. Première Partie: Sciences Mathématiques et Physiques. Tome Troisième. 4me, 5me, et 6me Livraisons. Tome Quatrième, 1ère Livraison. Saint Pétersbourg, 1844. 4to.—*From the Imperial Academy of St. Petersburg.*

Mémoires de l'Académie Impériale des Sciences de Saint Pétersbourg. VIme Série. Sciences Politiques, Histoire, Philologie. Tome Sixième, 4me, 5me et 6me Livraisons. Tome Septième, 1ère, 2de et 3me Livraisons. Saint Pétersbourg, 1844. 4to.—*From the same.*

Recueil des Actes de la Séance Publique de l'Académie Imperiale des Sciences de Saint Pétersbourg, tenue le 29 Décembre, 1843. 4to. *From the same.*

The Transactions of the Linnæan Society of London. Vol. XIX. Part the Third. London, 1844. 4to.—*From the Linnæan Society.*

Proceedings of the Linnæan Society of London. Nos. 19 to 22, inclusive. 8vo.—*From the same.*

List of the Linnæan Society of London. 1844. 4to.—*From the same.*

Journal of the Ethnological Society of London. Vol. I. Parts 1 and 2. 8vo.—*From the Ethnological Society.*

The Regulations and List of Members of the Ethnological Society of London. 1843 and 1844. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Report of the Council of the Ethnological Society of London. 1844. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Address to the Ethnological Society of London, delivered at the Anniversary Meeting, on the 25th of May, 1844. By Richard King, M.D., Secretary. London, 1844. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Twenty-fourth Report of the Council of the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society, at the close of the Session, 1843–44. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Astronomical Observations made at the Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford, in the Year 1842. By Manuel J. Johnson, M.A., Radcliffe Observer. Vol. III. Oxford, 1844. 8vo.—*From the Radcliffe Trustees.*

Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. Vol. II. No. 6. November, December, 1844. 8vo.—*From the Academy.*

Eighth Annual Catalogue of the Medical Institute of Louisville. Session, 1844–45, and Circular for the ensuing Session. Louisville, (Ky.) 1845. 8vo.—*Donor unknown.*

The African Repository and Colonial Journal. Vol. XXI. January, 1845. No. 1. 8vo.—*From the American Colonization Society.*

The American Journal of Science and Arts. Conducted by Professor Silliman and Benjamin Silliman, Jun. Vol. XLVIII. No. 1. January, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Editors.*

The Zoologist: a Popular Monthly Magazine of Natural History. No. XXIII. November, 1844. London. 8vo.—*From Edward Newman, Esq., Editor.*

The Phytologist: a Botanical Journal. No. XLII. November, 1844. London. 8vo.—*From the same.*

The British Almanac of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge. For the Year of our Lord 1845. London. 12mo. *From Petty Vaughan, Esq.*

Report on the Meteorology of Toronto. By Lieut. Col. Edward Sabine, R. A., F.R.S. From the Report of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, for 1844. 8vo.—*From Lieut. Col. Sabine.*

Annual Report of the Trustees of the State Library, State of New York, Senate, No. 10.—*From the Trustees.*

Annual Report of the Auditor General, for the Fiscal Year ending November 30, 1844. Harrisburg, 1845. 8vo.—*From C. B. Trego, Esq.*

Twenty-eighth Congress—2d Session, (Senate) Document, No. 16. Report of the Secretary, communicating a Report of the Superintendent of the Survey of the Coast, showing the progress of the work during the year ending November, 1844.—*From Professor A. D. Bache.*

Annual Oration delivered before the Philadelphia Medical Society, by appointment, at the opening of its Session of 1844–5. By D. Francis Condie, M.D. Philadelphia, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

The Medical News and Library. Vol. III. February, 1845. No. 26. 8vo.—*From Lea & Blanchard.*

American Quarterly Journal of Agriculture and Science. Conducted by Dr. E. Emmons and Dr. A. J. Prime. Vol. I. No. 1. January, February, March, 1845. Albany, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Editors.*

Medical Topography of Brazil and Uruguay: with Incidental Remarks. By G. R. B. Horner, M.D., Surgeon U. S. Navy. Philadelphia, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Act of Incorporation of the Northern Liberties Gas Works; with the Annual Reports of the Trustees to the Board of Commissioners of the Incorporated District of the Northern Liberties. 1844. 8vo.—*From Dr. Hays.*

Report of the Board of Managers of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company to the Stockholders, January 13, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Managers.*

An Introductory Lecture on the Means of Promoting the Intellectual Improvement of the Students and Physicians of the Valley of the Mississippi, delivered in the Medical Institute of Louisville, November 4, 1844. By Daniel Drake, M.D. Louisville, Ky., 1844. 8vo.—*Donor unknown.*

ADDITION TO THE LIBRARY BY PURCHASE.

Astronomische Nachrichten, Nos. 519, 520, 521. 4to.

Professor Hart, on the part of Mr. Walker, read to the Society two letters from Professor Schumacher, in relation to the medal offered by the King of Denmark, for the discovery of a new comet.

Dr. Patterson drew the attention of the Society to the first report of Professor Bache, Superintendent of the Coast Survey, and referred to the part which the Philosophical Society had taken in that great work; citing some of the important results attained by Professor Bache.

The remarks of Dr. Patterson gave occasion to observations from Mr. Justice and Professor Frazer, both gentlemen refer-

red to the accuracy with which the late Mr. Hassler had executed the work whilst under his superintendence.

The list of the surviving members of the Society, upon the 1st January last, was read, from which it appeared that the number was 351; of whom 244 are resident in the United States, and 107 in foreign countries. The deaths reported in 1844 are 12.

Dr. Elwyn announced the death of M. Jules de Wallenstein, late Russian Consul at Rio Janeiro, and a member of this Society.

Mr. Ord stated that Dr. Griffith had made an index to Ferussac's great work on molluscous animals;—and on motion, the thanks of the Society were directed to be presented to Dr. Griffith, for having prepared the same.

On motion of Mr. Kane, it was resolved, that the whole subject, referred to in the letter of Mr. Price read this evening, be referred to the Commitee of Finance, in connexion with the Treasurer, with power to take order.

Special Meeting, February 14.

Present, twenty-six members.

Dr. Bache, Vice-President, in the Chair.

The Presiding Officer stated that he had called the Special Meeting in consequence of a Communication, addressed to him as Vice-President, by a Committee of the Athenæum, and proposing to this Society to join with the Athenæum in erecting a new building, to accommodate both Societies, upon the lot occupied by the present building.

A Committee of Five were appointed to meet the Committee of the Athenæum, and confer with them on the proposition contained in their letter, and to report hereafter to the Society the result of such conference.

The Committee are Dr. Patterson, Mr. Ord, Mr. Smith, Mr. Lea, and Mr. Justice.

Stated Meeting, February 21.

Present, thirty-one members.

Dr. Bache, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were received and read:—

From the Institute of France, dated Paris, 14th November, 1844, and the Royal Academy of Sciences of Turin, respectively acknowledging the receipt of the Transactions and Proceedings of this Society:—

From the Royal Academy of Sciences of Brussels, dated 11th October, 1844, acknowledging the receipt of the Transactions and Proceedings of this Society, and transmitting certain works:—

From a Committee of the Law Academy, dated Philadelphia, 19th February, 1845, asking permission of the Society to have a copy made of the portrait of the late President, Mr. Du Ponceau, belonging to this Society:—

From Bishop Hughes, dated New York, February 8, 1845, on forwarding a package of books to the Society,—and

From Richard Seldiner, Vice Consul of Sweden and Norway, dated Philadelphia, 21st February, 1845, on transmitting a package of books for the Society, from M. Berzelius of Stockholm.

The request contained in the letter from the Committee of the Law Academy was granted.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Nouveaux Mémoires de l'Académie Royale des Sciences et Belles-Lettres de Bruxelles. Tome VIII. Bruxelles, 1834. 4to.—*From the Royal Academy of Sciences.*

Mémoires Couronnés, et Mémoires des Savants Etrangers, publiés par l'Académie Royale des Sciences et Belles-Lettres de Bruxelles. Tome XVI, 1843. Bruxelles, 1844. 4to.—*From the same.*

Annuaire de l'Académie Royale des Sciences, etc. de Bruxelles. Dixième Année, 1844. 18mo.—*From the same.*

Bulletins de l'Académie Royale des Sciences et Belles-Lettres de

Bruxelles. Tome VII. 1re Partie, No. 3 to 6, inclusive. Tome VII. 2me Partie, Nos. 7 and 8. Tome X. 2me Partie, No. 8 to 12, inclusive. Tome XI. 1re Partie, No. 1 to 6, inclusive. Tome XI. 2me Partie, Nos. 7 and 8. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Annales de l'Observatoire Royal de Bruxelles, publiées aux frais de l'Etat, par le Directeur, A. Quetelet, Secrétaire perpétuel de l'Académie Royale des Sciences et Belles-Lettres, etc. etc. etc. Tome III. Bruxelles, 1844. 4to.—*From the Director of the Observatory.*

Recherches Statistiques, par A. Quetelet, Président de la Commission Centrale de Statistique de Belgique, etc. etc. Bruxelles, 1844. 4to.—*From the Author.*

Annuaire de l'Observatoire Royal de Bruxelles, par A. Quetelet, Directeur de cet Établissement. 11me Année, 1844. Bruxelles, 1843. 18mo.—*From the Director, A. Quetelet.*

Kongl. Vetenskaps-Academiens Handlingar, för år 1842. Stockholm, 1843. 8vo.—*From the Royal Academy of Sciences of Stockholm.*

Ofversigt af Kongl. Vetenskaps-Akademiens Förhandlingar. Årg 1, 1844. Nos. 1 to 7, inclusive. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Års-Berättelse om Botaniska Arbeten och Upptäckter för år, 1838. Till Kongl. Vetenskaps-Academien afgifven den 31 Mars, 1839. Af Joh. Em. Wikström. Stockholm, 1842. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Års-Berättelse om Framstegen i Kemi och Mineralogi afgifven den 31 Mars 1844; af Jac. Berzelius, K. V. Acad. Secret. Stockholm, 1844. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Års-Berättelse om Zoologiens Framsteg under åren 1840–42. Till Kongl. Vetenskaps-Academien afgifven af Zoologiæ. Intendenterna vid Rikets naturhistoriska Museum. Tredje Delen. (Crustacea-Vermes,) af S. Lovén. Stockholm, 1844. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Tal af Kongl. Vetenskaps-Akademiens Præses Herr Hans Järta, hållet den 31 Mars 1839, på hundrado års-dagen efter Akademiens instiftalse. Stockholm, 1843. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Tal af Akademiens Præses Herr Friherre C. G. Von Brinkman, den 31 Mars 1843. Stockholm, 1843. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Die Theogonie, Philosophie und Kosmogonie der Hindus, von dem grafen M. Björnstjerna. Aus dem Schwedischen übersetzt und mit Anmerkungen begleitet von J. R. Stockholm, 1843. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Jahrbücher der Literatur. January to December, 1843. Nos. 101 to 104, inclusive. Vienna. 8vo.—*From Baron Von Hammer Purgstall.*

Geschichte der Ilchane das ist der Mongolen in Persien. Von Hammer Purgstall. Zweiter Band. Darmstadt, 1843. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Handbuch der Gesetze über ausschlieszende Privilegien auf neue Erfindungen, Entdeckungen und Verbesserungen. Von Dr. Anton Schuller. Wien, 1841. 8vo.—*From Baron Von Hammer Purgstall.*

M. Tudós Társasági Névkönyv, Astronomiai Naplóval és Kalendáriommal 1843–ra. Budén. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Journal of the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania. Third Series, Vol. IX. February, 1845. No. 2. 8vo.—*From Dr. R. M. Patterson.*

The Cyclopœdia of Practical Medicine. Edited by John Forbes, M.D. F.R.S., Alexander Tweedie, M.D., and John Conolly, M.D. Revised, with additions, by Robley Dunglison, M.D. Parts 1 to 24, inclusive. Philadelphia, 1844–45. 8vo.—*From Dr. Dunglison.*

Memorial soliciting a State Hospital for the Insane, submitted to the Legislature of Pennsylvania, February 3, 1845. Harrisburg, 1845. 8vo.—*From C. B. Trego, Esq.*

The Sanitary Condition of the Labouring Population of New York, with Suggestions for its Improvement. A Discourse (with Additons) delivered on the 30th December, 1844, at the Repository of the American Institute. By John H. Griscom, M.D. New York, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

ADDITION TO THE LIBRARY BY PURCHASE.

Astronomische Nachrichten, Nos. 523, 524, 525. 4to.

Dr. Patterson exhibited to the Society a counterfeit sovereign, bearing the head of George IV., and dated 1824, which was so perfect an imitation of the genuine coin, as to elude detection by any of the sensible or mechanical tests in common use, singly or combined.

The spurious piece is of the full legal weight of the sovereign,—123.3 grains. It is of the true dimensions, except a scarcely perceptible increase in thickness. It has the true colour, not only at the

surface, but in the interior, when cut. Its mechanical execution is such as to present no fault to an ordinary observer, even with the aid of a glass.

The only process, short of actual assay, by which it can be detected, is a trial of its specific gravity. A genuine sovereign of the same colour, would show a specific gravity of about 17.70; the piece in question gives but 16.22.

On assay it was shown to be composed as follows:—

Gold,	803	thousandths,
Silver,	122	„
Copper,	75	„
	1000	

Such an alloy should show the specific gravity above, or very nearly, according to the printed tables prepared at the Mint, by the Assayers, Messrs. Eckfeldt and Du Bois.

The value of the piece is $4.26; that of the sovereign of full weight $4.86; making a profit on each piece of 60 cents, or about 14 per cent. Counterfeiters are rarely contented with so small a gain, and their fraud is therefore more easily detected. In the present case, the smallness of the profit in the individual piece, gives reason to apprehend that the roguery is to be made available by a grand operation, and that many such counterfeits may be already abroad.

Dr. Dunglison announced that the Secretaries had appointed him as Corresponding Secretary, and Prof. Frazer as Reporter, for the present year.

Dr. Patterson, on the part of the Committee appointed at the last stated meeting, to meet a Committee of the Athenæum, made a report, and offered the following resolution.

Resolved, That the proposal from the Athenæum, for the erection on the lot now occupied by the Society's hall, of a new building for the accommodation of the two Institutions, is deemed by the Society to be inexpedient, and that it be therefore respectfully declined.

The resolution was adopted, and the Committee was discharged.

Stated Meeting, March 7.

Present twenty-five members.

Dr. Bache, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were received and read:—

From Mr. J. R. Ingersoll, dated Washington, 19th January, 1845, announcing that he had received and forwarded a donation of books from the French Minister of War:—

From the Royal Society of Antiquarians of the North, dated Copenhagen, 14th May, 1844, announcing a donation to the Library of the Society:—

From the French Minister, dated Washington, 12th February, 1845, announcing a donation to the Society's Library:—

From the American Colonization Society, dated Washington, 22d February, 1845, acknowledging the receipt of the Transactions of the Society, and announcing a donation to the Society's library:—and,

From Prof. S. S. Haldeman, dated Chicquesalunga, March 3, 1845, announcing the desire of the Allgemeine Schweitzerische Gesellschaft für die gesammten Naturwissenschaften, at Berne, Switzerland, to exchange publications with this Society.

The above mentioned Society was placed upon the list of exchanges of this Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Dictionnaire Français-Berbère (dialecte écrit et parlé par les Kabaïles de la division d'Alger) ouvrage composé par ordre de M. le Ministre de la Guerre. Paris, Imprimerie Royale, 1844. 8vo.—*From the Minister of War, Paris.*

Rudiments de la Langue Arabe de Thomas Erpénius, traduits en Français, accompagnés de Notes, et suivis d'un Supplément indiquant les différences entre le langage littéral et le langage vulgaire. Par A. E. Hébert, Capitaine du Génie. Paris, Imprimerie Royale, 1844. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Journal Asiatique. Quatrième Série. Tome IV. No. 18. Sep-

tembre—Octobre, 1844. 8vo.—*From the Asiatic Society of Paris.*

Die Königliche Gesellschaft für Nordische Alterthumskunde. Jahresversammlung, 1843. Copenhagen. 8vo.—*From the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries.*

Om det Engelske Konjugationssystem. Med et Tillæg om Forholdet imellem Dansk og Engelsk. Forfattet af P. Hjort. Copenhagen, 1843. 4to.—*From the same.*

Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. Vol. II. Jan. and Feb. 1845. No. 7. 8vo.—*From the Academy.*

Journal of the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania. Third Series. Vol. IX. March, 1845. No. 3. 8vo.—*From Dr. R. M. Patterson.*

The African Repository and Colonial Journal. Vol. XXI. Feb. 1845. No. 2. 8vo.—*From the American Colonization Society.*

A Historical Examination of the State of Society in Western Africa, as formed by Paganism and Muhammedanism, Slavery, the Slave Trade and Piracy, &c. By Joseph Tracy. Boston, 1845. Second Edition. 8vo.—*From the same.*

The Literary Remains of the Rev. Jonathan Maxcy, D.D. With a Memoir of his Life. By Romeo Elton, D.D. New York, 1844. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

A Report to the Navy Department of the United States, on American Coals applicable to Steam Navigation, and to other purposes. By Walter R. Johnson. Washington, 1844. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a letter from Professor Morse, relative to the Magnetic Telegraph. Doc. 24, 28th Congress, 2d Session, House of Representatives.—*From the Hon. J. R. Ingersoll.*

The Medical News and Library. Vol. III. March, 1845. No. 27. 8vo.—*From Messrs. Lea & Blanchard.*

Reminiscences of Old Gloucester: or Incidents in the History of the Counties of Gloucester, Atlantic, and Camden, New Jersey. By Isaac Mickle. Philadelphia, 1845. 8vo.—*From Townsend Ward, Esq.*

ADDITION TO THE LIBRARY BY PURCHASE.

Comptes Rendus Hebdomadaires des Séances de l'Académie des Sciences; par MM. les Secrétaires perpétuels. Tome XIX. Nos. 18 to 21, inclusive. 28th October to 18th November, 1844. 4to.

The Committee, consisting of Mr. Titian R. Peale, Mr. Lea, and Mr. Ord, on Mr. Haldeman's paper, entitled "Materials towards a History of the Coleoptera Longicornia of the United States," reported in favour of its publication, which was ordered accordingly.

This paper contains a general view of the Longicornia of the United States, including a list of the species, with references to the works in which they are published. The characters of several new genera, and descriptions of a large number of new species are given.

The list of Committees on subjects of science, which had not reported, was read.

The Committees on Prof. Gillis' paper, describing Instruments, on the Magnetic Observatory; and on Periodical Observations, were discharged.

Certain letters of a private nature, written by Mr. Jared Sparks, and found among the letters bequeathed to the Society by the late Mr. John Vaughan, were ordered to be returned to Mr. Sparks.

Stated Meeting, March 21.

Present, twenty members.

Dr. Bache, Vice-President, in the Chair.

A letter was received and read:—

From the Librarian of the Boston Society of Natural History, dated Boston, 9th March, 1845, announcing a deficiency in their series of the Transactions and Proceedings of this Society, which was referred to the Librarian, with authority to take order.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London, for the Year 1844. Part II. London, 1844. 4to.—*From the Royal Society.*

Proceedings of the Royal Society, 1843–44. No. 59. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Magnetical and Meteorological Observations made at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, in the Year 1842: under the direction of George Biddell Airy, Esq., M.A., Astronomer Royal. Published by order of the Board of Admiralty, in obedience to her Majesty's command. London, 1844. 4to.—*From the same.*

Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. Vol. XV. Part IV. Edinburgh, 1844. 4to.—*From the Royal Society of Edinburgh.*

Proceedings of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, Nos. 23, 24. 8vo. *From the same.*

The Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland. No. XV. Part II. London, 1844. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Twenty-eighth Annual Report of the American Colonization Society, with the Proceedings of the Board of Directors. Washington, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

The African Repository and Colonial Journal. Vol. XXI. March, 1845. No. 3. 8vo.—*From the same.*

The Zoologist: a Popular Monthly Magazine of Natural History, &c. No. 24. December, 1844. 8vo.—*From Edward Newman, Esq.*

The Phytologist: a Botanical Journal. No. XLIII. December, 1844. 8vo.—*From the same.*

Reports on the Washington Silver Mine in Davidson County, North Carolina. By Richard C. Taylor. With an Appendix, containing Assays of the Ores, returns of Silver and Gold produced, and Statements of the Affairs of the Washington Mining Company. Philadelphia, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Observations on the Botany of Illinois, more especially in reference to the Autumnal Flora of the Prairies. By C. W. Short, M.D.—*From the Author.*

ADDITION TO THE LIBRARY BY PURCHASE.

Astronomische Nachrichten. Nos. 522, 527, 528. 4to.

Prof. Frazer called the attention of the Society to the report of Mr. Richard C. Taylor, upon the Washington Silver Mine in Davidson County, North Carolina, presented by him to the Society's library this evening, and made some remarks upon the interesting peculiarities of the mine.

The mine consists of various ores of silver and lead intermixed with zinc, lying in two large and two smaller lodes and veins. These veins underlie to the west, and are cut off by two faults, one to the northward and one to the southward, which, being produced, meet to the westward of the workings. In consequence, as the works deepen, the length of the workings decrease, yet the whole content of the veins has not been found to diminish; the throw of the faults was not yet known, but must be determined when the veins within the area of the faults are worked out.

Dr. Patterson remarked, that this was the only silver mine worked in the United States, and that the product, as presented at the Mint, had been about $30,000 in silver, containing about $7000 in gold.

Dr. Bache called the attention of the meeting to the late experiments of Dr. Faraday upon the condensation of gases.

Stated Meeting, April 4.

Present, twenty-two members.

Dr. Bache, Vice-President, in the Chair.

A letter was received:—

From Signor Francesco Zantedeschi, dated Venice, 9th November, 1844, transmitting certain memoirs of which he is the author, and expressing his anxiety that a scientific intercourse should exist between America and Northern Italy, through this Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

The History of Oregon and California, and the other Territories on the North-west Coast of North America; accompanied by a Geographical View and Map of those Countries, and a number of Documents as Proofs and Illustrations of the History. By Robert Greenhow. Boston, 1844. 8vo.—*From the Department of State, Washington.*

Boston Journal of Natural History. Vol. II. August, 1839. No. 3, 4. 8vo. Vol. V. No. 1. January, 1845.—*From the Society.*

Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History. Nos. 17 to 21, inclusive. October, 1843, to November, 1844. 8vo.—*From the same.*

The Medical News and Library. Vol. III. April, 1845. No. 28. 8vo.—*From Lea & Blanchard.*

First Report on Meteorology, to the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, by James P. Espy, A.M. Washington, Oct. 9, 1843. 4to.—*From the Author.*

Report of the Select Committee of the House, relative to the Use of Mercury in the Practice of Medicine. Harrisburg, 1845. 8vo.—*From Charles B. Trego, Esq.*

Report of the Select Committee on the Maps, Plates, &c., of the Exploring Expedition. 28th Congress, 2d Session, House of Representatives, Doc. 160.—*From Titian R. Peale.*

Memoirs on the Military Resources of the Valley of the Ohio, as applicable to Operations on the Gulf of Mexico; and on a System for the Common Defence of the United States. By John Sanders. With a Review of the same by James L. Mason. Washington, 1845. 8vo.—*From Major Hartman Bache.*

Trattato del Magnetismo e della Elettricità dell' ab. Francesco Zantedeschi. Parte I. Venezia, 1844. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Elenco delle Principali Opere Scientifiche presentate ad Accademie o pubblicate dell' Abate Francesco Zantedeschi. Venezia, 1842. 4to.—*From the same.*

Del Transporto della Materia Pesante nelle due opposte Correnti dell' Apparato Voltiano della loro Natura e del Moto Vorticoso o a Spirale dell' Arco Luminoso. Memoria dell' Abate Francesco Zantedeschi. Vicenza, 1844. 4to.—*From the same.*

Memoria sul Termo-Elettricismo Dinamico nei Circuiti formati di un solo metallo dell' Abate Francesco Zantedeschi. Vicenza, 1844. 4to.—*From the same.*

Report of Edward Miller, Civil Engineer, on the Improvement of the Schuylkill Navigation, made to the Board of Managers, March 11, 1845. 8vo.—*From S. W. Roberts.*

The list of Committees on subjects of science, which have not yet reported, was read.

The Committee on Prof. Henry's communications of elec-

trical induction, having at present nothing before them, were discharged.

The list of members appointed to write obituary notices of deceased members of the Society, was read.

Dr. Patterson drew the attention of the Society to a specimen of what is technically called a "grain" of gold, found on the lands of a Virginia gentleman, Mr. David R. Pulliam, in Spotsylvania County: its weight was 25½ ounces: the quality of the gold, 897.5 thousandths by standard. The specific gravity of the gold was found to be 17.87. The specific gravity of the whole mass was 14.87; the value of the gold in it is $456.54, which was determined by the problem of Archimedes. Dr. Patterson referred to cases of grains of gold found in this country, which are on record in the Manual of Coins by Messrs. Eckfeldt and Du Bois, and to others found in other countries.

Professor Frazer mentioned one found in 1843, in the Ural mountains, described by Baron Humboldt in the Annales de Chimie, Tom. VII., which is the largest on record, weighing over 72 lbs. avoirdupois.

Stated Meeting, April 18.

Present, twenty-seven members.

Dr. Bache, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were received and read:—

From the Royal Asiatic Society, dated London, 2d November, 1844, acknowledging the receipt of the Transactions and Proceedings of the Society:—

From the Society of Antiquaries of London, dated London, 29th November, 1844, accompanying a donation of certain works to this Society:—

From Mr. C. A. Le Sueur, dated Havre, 14th February, 1845, accompanying a donation of Geological Views of the *Falaises* at the Cape of Laheve, near Havre:—and

From the American Minister at the Court of St. James, Mr. Everett, dated London, 14th March, 1845, in relation to the

next meeting of the *Scienziati Italiani*, which takes place at Naples, on the 20th September next.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Archæologia; or, Miscellaneous Tracts, relating to Antiquity. Published by the Society of Antiquaries of London. Vol. XXX. London, 1844. 4to.—*From the Society of Antiquaries.*

An Index to Archæologia. From Vol. XVI. to Vol. XXX., inclusive. Published by the Society of Antiquaries of London. London, 1844. 4to.—*From the same.*

Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society of London. Vol. VI. Nos. 9, 10, 11. 8vo.—*From the Royal Astronomical Society.*

Memoir of Francis Baily, Esquire, D.C.L., Oxford and Dublin, &c. &c. By Sir John F. W. Herschel, Bart. London, 1845. 8vo. *From the same.*

Annales des Mines. Quatrième Série. Tome V. 3e Livraison de 1844. Tome VI. 4e Livraison de 1844. 8vo.—*From the Engineers of Mines, Paris.*

Journal Asiatique. Quatrième Série. Tome IV. No. 19. Novembre, 1844. 8vo.—*From the Asiatic Society of Paris.*

The American Journal of Science and Arts. Vol. XLVIII. No. 2. April, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Editors.*

L'Art de Vérifier les Dates, depuis l'année 1770, jusqu'à nos jours. Publié par M. le Marquis de Fortiu. Tome XVIII. Paris, 1844. 8vo.—*From D. B. Warden, Esq.*

Mélanges, par J. C. F. Ladoucette. Seconde édition. Paris, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

The Electrical Magazine. Conducted by Mr. Charles V. Walker. Vol. I. No. 7. January, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Editor.*

The Zoologist; a Popular Monthly Magazine of Natural History. Nos. 25 and 26. 8vo.—*From Edward Newman, Esq.*

The Phytologist; a Botanical Journal. Nos. 44 and 45. January and February, 1845. 8vo.—*From the same.*

The American Journal of the Medical Sciences. Edited by Isaac Hays, M.D. New Series. No. XVIII. April, 1845. 8vo. *From the Editor.*

Curtii Sprengelii facultatis medicæ Halensis senïoris Opuscula Academica collegit, edidit, vitamque auctoris breviter enarravit Julius Rosenbaum, M.D. Viennæ, 1844. 8vo.—*From Dr. Hays.*

The Annual Report of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, for 1844. Philadelphia, 1845. 8vo.—*From the Directors.*

A Report to the Navy Department of the United States, on American Coals applicable to Steam Navigation, and to other purposes. By Walter R. Johnson. 8vo.—*From the Navy Department.*

Reports of the Majority and Minority of the Committee on Internal Improvements, relative to granting the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad the right of way through Pennsylvania. Harrisburg, 1845. 8vo.—*From C. B. Trego, Esq.*

Vues et Coupes du Cap de la Hève; Plan du littoral du Cap de la Hève, etc. etc. A lithographic view of the Cape near Havre, in France. By C. Lesueur.—*From the Author.*

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY BY PURCHASE.

Comptes Rendus Hebdomadaires des Séances de l'Académie des Sciences. Tome XIX. Nos. 22 to 27, inclusive. 4to.

Astronomische Nachrichten. No. 526. 4to.

Dr. Hays was excused from the duty of preparing an obituary notice of Mr. Keating.

Dr. Patterson adverted again to the subject of grains of gold, and read from the Annales de Chimie, the account of the grain referred to by Professor Frazer at the last meeting. It weighed 23,159 dwts. Its fineness was not given, but its probable value was over 23,000 dollars.

Dr. Patterson then drew attention to a comparison between the value of the French standard kilogramme and our own weights, as deduced from the various weighings of French gold at the Mint—which comparison, he remarked, although not as accurate as those made for scientific purposes, was still sufficiently so to give to it interest and commercial importance.

On 14th May, 1836, an invoice of French indemnity gold was received at the Mint, consisting (besides coins) of 28 bars.

The weight stated by the French Mint was 296.1607 kilogrammes. At our Mint, weighing to the nearest dwt. the weight found was 793.5 lbs. Hence the weight of the kilogramme is deduced 2.6792767 lbs., or 15432.63379 grains. In weighing gold and silver the pound Troy is alone used.

Mr. Hassler's direct comparison of the standards gives 2.679367 lbs., or 15433.15902 grains. The difference between the two is 0.525228 grains.

The two first weighings were upon a beam considered less capable of accuracy than that used in the remaining eight. The mean of the last eight weighings gave as the value of the kilogramme 2.678844 lbs., or approximately 2.6789 lbs. A number easily remembered from the peculiar order of the decimal figures.

2.6789 lbs. is equivalent to 15430.464 grains, which is less than Mr. Hassler's determination by 2.695 grains.

It was to be expected that the weighing here would fall short of the weighing in France, on account of the handling and rubbing which the bars must necessarily undergo in transportation. On the other hand, Mr. Hassler's result is probably too high.

The result obtained upon comparison by the French Minister of the Interior, for the kilogramme, was - - -	15432.719
By Dr. Moll, - - - - - - -	15432.265
By Weber, at Berlin, by platinum, - - -	15432.082
By Hassler, - - - - - - - -	15432.634

15432 grains will correspond exactly to 643 dwts., or 32.15 oz., or 2.67916 lbs.

Upon 4th January, 1843, a deposit of French gold was made at the Mint by Mr. August Belmont.

The weights of the kilogramme deduced from the three weighings were respectively, 32.15494, 32.15282, 32.15780 oz.: mean 32.15487 oz., equivalent to 643.097 dwts., or 15434.337 grains, which gives an excess to the value of the kilogramme of about 2 grains.

Dr. Hays announced the death of Dr. Lorenzo Martini, of Turin, a member of this Society.

Mr. Kane having expressed a desire to be excused from serving upon the Committee on the revision of the By-laws, Mr. Dillingham was appointed upon that Committee in his stead.

The Prince of Canino and Musignano of Rome, was invited to represent this Society at the meeting of the *Scienziati Italiani* of Naples, on the 20th September next.

Mr. Edward Miller, Civil Engineer, of Philadelphia, was elected a member of the Society.